



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

DOUGLAS KRESS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
July 15, 2021
Open Conference / Virtual Meeting

Present:

Douglas Kress, Director
Brian Green, MD (Chair)
Paula Machado, Board Member
Robert Ciccio, Board Member

City Staff - Ellen Shachter from Office of Housing Stability

Guests: 10 Guests joined the meeting

Meeting Called to Order:

On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was called to order at 6:01pm. It was seconded by Ms. Machado.

Approval of Minutes: The June 17, 2021 minutes were approved. It was seconded by Paula Machado.

Eviction Moratorium: Ellen Shatner from the City of Somerville Housing Stability Office, presented slides on updates of the Eviction Moratorium which included:

- A. Court Filings: Eastern Housing Court had a total of 52 new cases filed since 10/15/20 and Somerville District Court had a total of 74 new cases filed since 10/15/20.
- B. Notice to Quit – Office of Housing Stability, 14 Notices to Quit and 7 court complaints
Somerville Homeless Coalition – 9 rental assistance applications with notices to quit and 2 court complaints
Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) – 3 rental assistance applications with notices to quit and 2 court complaints and Somerville Corp/Wingate – 13 rental assistance applications with notices to quit
(all of the above data was collected between 04/21 through 6/21.
- C. City's Office of Housing Stability Date – total new request for assistance from April to June 2021 was 372 and request for rental assistance only in the same period 176.
- D. Unemployment percentages as of May 2021 were 4.5% in Somerville

Covi19/Vaccines Updates: The latest data for Somerville is as follows:

- A. Total Positive Cases – 6,186
- B. Total Fatalities – 87
- C. Percent Positivity (last 14 days) is 0.42%
- D. Total Positive Confirmed – 5,796
- E. Total Probable Cases – 390
- F. Total Fully Vaccinated – 53,954 which is 71%

A new variant of the covid19 virus called the Delta variant is now circulating throughout the United States which is more contagious, and the CDC is recommended that all wear mask especially indoors whether you are vaccinated or not,

Directors' Updates: The budget has been approved and fy22 is open. The department has applied for new grant funds through MDPH. Both are shared services funding streams; HHS will be partnering with the Cities of Arlington and Medford. The department has gone through some staff transitions, Georgianna Silveira our Environmentalist for rodent control is going back to school to get her masters. One staff has retired, and Liz Kelman has taken the Public Health Nurse Manager position vacated by Sara Harris. The School Nurses are now fully transferred over to the School Department, no longer under the budget of the Health & Human Services Department.

Next meeting – Virtual

August 19, 2021

Adjournment:

On a motion made by Dr. Green, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm. It was seconded by Mr. Ciccio

List of Documents:

Notice/Agenda, Eviction Moratorium Slides

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Henkle-Teixeira
Board of Health Secretary
July 22, 2021